

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00975 080614Z

20

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 EB-11 OMB-01 SCI-06 FEA-02 CIEP-02

INT-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /121 W
----- 099567

R 080512Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2423

UNCLAS SEOUL 0975

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, KS

SUBJECT: SHORT SUPPLY PROBLEMS

REF: (A) STATE 023940

(B) STATE 022871

(C) SEOUL 932

(D) SEOUL A-28

1. COMPLETE LIST OF ROKG EXPORT RESTRICTIONS PROVIDED
REFS (C) AND (D) IN RESPONSE TO REF (B). EXPORT CONTROLS
ARE MAINTAINED ON WIDE VARIETY OF BASIC INDUSTRIAL RAW
MATERIALS, MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH ARE THE FOLLOWING (LIST
EXCLUDED ITEMS NOT PRODUCED IN KOREA, RE-EXPORT OF WHICH IS
RESTRICTED BY ROKG): BANNED ITEMS -- WOOD AND WOOD PULP;
RESTRICTED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF RELEVANT MINISTRY)--
NATURAL GRAPHITE, PORTLAND CEMENT, ANTHRACITE COAL, UREA,
NITROGENOUS FERTILIZERS, PVC AND POLYSTYRENT RESINS,
PLYWOOD, RAW SILK, FERROUS SCRAP, IRON/STEEL REINFORCING BARS.

2. STRICTNESS WITH WHICH EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ARE APPLIED
VARIES GREATLY FROM ITEM TO ITEM. FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE FERROUS
SCRAP EXPORTS ARE EFFETIVELY BANNED, PLYWOOD REMAINS ONE OF
KOREA'S MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES.

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 00975 080614Z

3. MOTIVATION FOR CONTROLS VARIES BY PRODUCT, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY
UNAWARE OF ANY RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED TO ACHIEVE STRICTLY
POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, RESTRICTIONS ARE
DESIGNED TO EASE DOMESTIC SHORTAGES, AND THUS INFLATIONARY
PRESSURES. THUS, THERE IS REQUIREMENT THAT 20 PERCENT OF
PLYWOOD PRODUCTION BE SOLD IN DOMESTIC MARKET. ONE NOTABLE
EXCEPTION TO FOREGOING GENERALIZATION IS CEMENT WHERE AS
MATTER OF POLICY EXPORT PREFERENCE GOES TO COUNTRIES
WHICH ARE POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS OF PETROLEUM OR LUMBER.
HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EIND, ETRD, KS
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